

Prevention Redesign Initiative

Washington State
Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery

White Swan Arts & Recreation Community Coalition

The White Swan Arts and Recreation Coalition meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Methodist Church in White Swan. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m., the meeting begins at 6 p.m.

Nancy Fiander Community Coordinator

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White Swan, Washington

White Swan Arts & Recreation Community Coalition

Coalition Overview

The White Swan Arts and Recreation Community Coalition has been meeting for more than six years. Dream Makers is the youth coalition that currently has more than 40 members.

Stakeholders:

Faith leaders, Yakama Nation law enforcement, county programs, and the Washington State Patrol actively participate in the community coalition. Yakama Nation housing officers, community businesses and health care providers partner as needed. School administrators, community members, student assistance professionals, ESD 105 staff, students and parents have also participated. The Readiness to Learn Case Manager and Graduation Specialist have recently joined the group.

Existing Resources:

Coalition members have given generously of their time and talents. Nancy Fiander, Community Coordinator, is trained in community organizing and prevention. Tribal liaisons and school district staff are also resources.

Prevention Successes

White Swan was selected for a SPF-SIG grant six years ago. The coalition really took that work to heart, learning and understanding the data, selecting strategies, learning about environmental strategies and evaluation. The school district was actively involved with SPF-SIG. The coalition chose to fund an additional full-time Student Assistance Professional. This success led the group to apply and be a successful recipient of a federal Drug Free Communities Grant.

Other PRI Contacts



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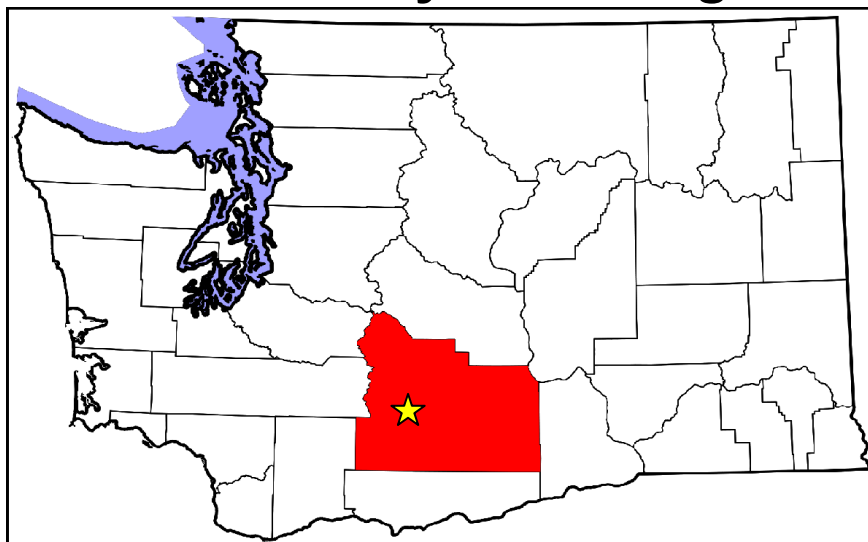
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Yakima County, Washington



Brief Community Profile

White Swan, located in the heart of the Yakama Nation, has been affected by adverse conditions for many years. Native American children were placed in boarding schools 60 years ago. This break in family, now considered historical trauma, contributes to a loss of cultural traditions and rituals that keep families and communities strong. The community is also affected by increases in substance use in adults, mental health issues, lack of educational opportunities, family dysfunction and continued poverty. The community is isolated from the nearest businesses and services. Businesses in White Swan include the Cougar Den which is a combination gas station, hamburger place and laundry mat, Trading Post/gas station, and Pizza/Deli. There are also two churches; the Catholic Church and Methodist Church in the "down town" area with a Shaker and Disciples Log Mission in the outlying area.

Summary of Prevention Programs:

The community has worked hard to choose strategies that will best meet the needs of children, youth and adults in the community. Two nearly full-time substance abuse professionals serve the 400 middle and high school students.

Programs being implemented include Project ALERT, Sons and Daughters of Tradition, Strengthening Multi-Ethnic Families and Strengthening Families.

Community events like Spring Jam, Summer Jam and the National Night Out draw more than 200 participants each year.

Our Mission:

We will live out the vision by honoring the voices of the community and by being advocates for communication and education. Our actions will consistently promote positive change for all creation; by establishing community collaboration to prevent and reduce substance abuse, by addressing the factors in the community that increase risk of substance abuse and by promoting factors that minimize the risk of substance abuse.

General Statistics

Community: White Swan

Population: 3,033

Ethnic Diversity

Native American	64.4%
Asian	0.1%
Pacific Islands	0.1%
Black	0.1%
Hispanic	29.0%
White	6.3%